

~~SECRET~~

THE CONGO

We are on the verge of a serious crisis in our efforts through the UN to establish the political framework in the Congo which might enable that country to move toward solving its immense political and economic problems. Unless Premier Adoula in Leopoldville and Tshombé in mineral-rich Katanga can agree on terms for ending Katanga's separatism, we are in for serious trouble:

(a) The moderate, pro-Western Adoula could be pushed out by more radical leaders;

(b) The UN might be forced to move militarily against Tshombé with incalculable but unpleasant repercussions; and

(c) Opportunities would increase for Soviet and radical African influence.

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